

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

BA 2500

Survey No. BA 2500
Magi No. 0325005504

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic CROSSMORE-SHEPPERD STORE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 11501 Franklinville Road

☐ not for publication

city, town Upper Falls

☐ vicinity of

Councilmanic District
congressional district

5th
2nd

state Maryland

county

Baltimore County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other: B & B

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Donald and Marlene Rollins

street & number Same

telephone no.: 592-2762

city, town

state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courts Building

liber 4869

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue

folio 103

city, town Towson

state Maryland 21204

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title No previous survey

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☐ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Shepperd House or Upper Falls store is a complex building with its main entrance close to the road. The main block is 2-½ stories of frame and clapboard with its gable end to the street. A full-width front porch runs across the main block. Modern bay windows with multiple panes replace the old general store front windows opening onto the porch. The windows in the residential part of the house are 2-over-2 double-hung sash types, typical of the late 19th century. A photo made in 1975 shows German siding on the lower two stories and fishscale shingle infill in the gable peaks. Each side of the roof is fitted with one dormer.

A small, two-story, two-bay wide frame wing is attached to the main block and connected to the rear by a passageway or hyphen. This wing appeared in the photo made ca. 1900.

The interior of the house has some good 19th century woodwork and a sturdy and well crafted stairway in the rural Baltimore County tradition.

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8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The cross-roads at Upper Falls has also been known as McCubbinsville and Starr's Corner, reflecting the names of various storekeepers and postmasters. In fact, Upper Falls was probably as much a name for a neighborhood as for the intersection; during the postmastership of James Mahool, Jr. (starting December 26, 1851), the Upper Falls post office was probably in the company store at Franklinville in the Mahool family's cotton factory village. The 1866 Maryland State Business Directory and the 1867 Bradstreet's Directory listed the only store at Upper Falls as that of Hugh Simms, the successor to Mahool at the cotton works.

The east-west road through the present village of Upper Falls is now called Bradshaw Road but in colonial times was Manor-and-Joppa Rolling Road according to the writings of William B. Marye, a native of the vicinity. Sidney's 1850 map showed the route as "Joppa Road." The old road did not actually enter Joppa Town because it stopped on the opposite bank of the tidal river at a tobacco inspection warehouse. Bradshaw Road may have been part of the road link to the short-lived county seat called Gunpowder Town, a fiat town established in 1692 where a courthouse and tiny jail were built but no residential cluster ever developed.

One could have avoided ferrying across to Joppa by taking an inland route and riding across two sometimes dangerous fords, one at Long Calm, the other where Maryland Route 7 crosses Gunpowder Falls. The region between the two branches of the Gunpowder was long known as "Fork of the Gunpowder" or "Forks of the Gunpowder," that place-name being found as early as 1737 in the levy court papers where it was given as Thomas Johnson's address. (1)

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CROSSMORE-SHEPPERD STORE

What made Upper Falls a cross-roads was the laying out of a north-south route toward Franklinville, where there was a spade and shovel foundry as early as 180__, joined by a cotton factory village about 1827-28. A map in the county roads records of 1833 showed the present Franklinville Road leading to a "Factory Village" and to "Baltimore Factory," which constituted Franklinville. (2)

No structure was shown at the northeast corner of Franklinville and Bradshaw Roads on Sidney and Browne's 1850 map of the county. By 1877, a small square was shown in a well developed village on the 11th Election District plate in G. M. Hopkins's atlas, but the house shown was probably one lot north of the corner, marked as "Mrs. Forsyth."

However, the house under study is clearly a survival from the mid-Victorian era as its excellent and sturdy stairway suggests, along with other characteristic elements such as gambrel roofing and fishscale shingle infill in the gable peak.

Upper Falls P. O. was shown as the neighborhood name on Plate 37 of G. W. Bromley's 1915 county atlas.

In 1862, Nicholas McCubbin sold one acre at this corner to his daughter, Mrs. Mary Jane Forsyth. (3)

On Mrs. Forsyth's death in 1888, her inventory showed that she had 8 vacant acres, plus an acre that contained two structures and a smokehouse. The inventory described the structures as follows:

Improved by a one-two story frame house now occupied by Jarrett Standiford. Also one two story and attic frame house with back building and small smoke house. (4).

Local traditions reported by the present owner holds that Standiford was the store keeper. Thus the house to the north was the place where Mrs. Forsyth lived. Her inventory of personal items listed a kitchen, sitting room, two halls, three bed rooms, porch, a pantry, smoke house, and "a lot of hay in the loft." (5) The will mentioned her sister, Helen E. Maccubbin, who was to receive a gold watch. A sum of \$5 was to go to Elizabeth A. Doulin. (6)

Mrs. Forsyth's executor sold the acre to Joshua Hammond on March 13, 1889. The consideration was \$3,500. (7) The name Joshua Hammond appears in the very crowded topography in the Bromley atlases of both 1898 and 1915.

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CROSSMORE-SHEPPERD STORE

The house and its built-in store were probably rented to William Crossmore in the late 19th century. An old photograph of the structure appears in the 1991 regional book, Villages, showing it covered with clapboard. Village residents J. Hammond Brandt and Mrs. Thirza M. Brandt reported in the book that Crossmore was a tenant operator and Francis G. Shepperd took title from Joshua Hammond on January 3, 1920. (9) The Shepperds operated the store until 1943 under the name Francis G. Shepperd & Son Grocery Store. On the death of Francis G. Shepperd in 1943, son Bradley Shepperd took over the business but soon ran into the problem of wartime shortages of stock and the possibility of hiring help. The store was closed and eventually the building was turned into an attractive home. The former "store room" became a living room; the post office, according to the Villages book, continued in a small side room for about nine years. In 1968, the Sheppard family heirs sold the house to Mr. Donald Rollins and his wife Mrs. Marlene Rollins. (10) The Rollins family now operate the "Snooty Fox Bed and Breakfast" in the beautifully restored country corner store.

NOTES:

1. F. Edward Wright, Inhabitants of Baltimore County, 1692-1763, Family Line Publications, Silver Spring, Md., 1987, p. 28.
2. Record of the Proceedings of the Commissioners No. 1, f. 89 (1833).
3. Baltimore County Deeds, GHC 36:68, Towson.
4. Baltimore County Inventories, TP 22:198.
5. Baltimore County Inventories, TP 22:194.
6. Baltimore County Wills, TP 8:257.
7. Baltimore County Deeds, JWS 174:313. The 1888 issues of the B.C. Union are mostly missing making it impossible to locate the executor's advertisement.
8. Multiple Authors, Villages of Northeast Baltimore County, Northeast Historic District Committee, Perry Hall, 1991, p. 67.
9. Baltimore County Deeds, WPC 519:542.
10. Baltimore County Deeds, OTG 4869:103.

CROSSSHEP/HISTORY

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Villages of Northeast Baltimore County, multiple authors, Northeast Historic District Committee, Perry Hall, 1991.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.53Quadrangle name White MarshQuadrangle scale 1:24,000UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Bounding on east side of Franklinville Road, 150 feet and on north side of Bradshaw Road 143 feet. Tax Map 64, Parcel P34.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John McGrainorganization Office of Planningdate December 19, 1991street & number 401 Bosley Avenuetelephone (410) 887-3211city or town Towsonstate Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
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